

family, but with our District their passion to improve the lives of others; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to honor and recognize Jesse and Ruth Young as they celebrate their 70th Anniversary, seventy (70) years in marital bliss;

Now Therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR. do hereby proclaim September 11, 2010, and September 12, 2010, as Jesse and Ruth Young Day in the 4th Congressional District.

Proclaimed, This 11th day of September, 2010.

COMMENDING WILLIAM VINCE
AND VIP HONDA OF SOMERSET
COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

HON. LEONARD LANCE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 9, 2011

Mr. LANCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate William Vince of Bernardsville, New Jersey. This year Mr. Vince is celebrating the 50th anniversary of his dealership, VIP Honda, which is located in North Plainfield, New Jersey.

VIP Honda was founded by Mr. Vince and he continues to own and operate it to this day in the heart of the Seventh Congressional District. VIP Honda has been praised by customers for "making car buying stress-free," and it has consistently met the standards of excellence Honda and consumers expect. One customer said, "I would recommend VIP Honda to any of my family and friends." VIP Honda was among the first Honda automobile dealerships in the Nation, and its success paralleled that of Honda automobiles across the country.

From the beginning, Mr. Vince shared his success by giving back to the community. Mr. Vince is constantly ready to lend a helping hand to the community and has consistently proven his willingness to help throughout the years. His support for local police and fire departments shows his dedication to our public servants, and his involvement in community-wide events has been well documented throughout the years. Mr. Vince is also involved in a variety of charitable, nonprofit and other worthwhile organizations, for which I commend him.

Mr. Vince will be 87 on March 17. I am pleased to congratulate him and his dealership on their achievements throughout the years.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE RETIREMENT OF SERGEANT NORMAN ELDEN WILLINGHAM

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 9, 2011

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I would like to pay tribute to Sergeant Norman Elden Willingham.

Sgt. Willingham grew up in Tuscaloosa County and graduated from Northside High School in 1969. After graduation, he served with honor and distinction in the U.S. Marine

Corp from 1969–71 with a tour of duty in Vietnam as a machine gunner.

In 1974, he graduated from the University of Alabama with a Bachelor of Arts degree. From 1974–76, he worked as a police officer for the University of Alabama Police Department. From 1976–80, he was employed as a police officer with the City of Tuscaloosa and earned a Masters degree in criminal justice in 1979 from the University of Alabama.

In 1980, he went to work for the Birmingham Police Department. Upon graduating Birmingham Police Department's academy, Sgt. Willingham was immediately transferred into the Narcotics Unit, where he worked undercover for 2 years. In 1982, Sgt. Willingham went to work for the Northport Police Department, where he was assigned as one of the original members of the West Alabama Drug Task Force until 1985.

In 1985, he went to work with the Alabama Department of Public Safety. Sgt. Willingham was assigned as an Alabama State Trooper in Greene County, Alabama, for 3 years, where he developed a reputation as a professional law enforcement officer. In 1988, Sgt. Willingham transferred to the Alabama Bureau of Investigations where he completed assignments in the general crime investigative division and the narcotics investigation units.

In 1999, Sgt. Willingham was assigned to the Birmingham District Office of the Drug Enforcement Administration where he serves until his retirement on April 1, 2011. He has developed a reputation throughout Alabama and the United States narcotics law enforcement community as the "go to guy" in Alabama. Sgt. Willingham has been the case agent on several multi-state and international drug investigations which have led to the dismantlement of drug trafficking organizations throughout the United States.

He is preparing to slow down and work on his farm in Tuscaloosa County, Alabama, with his wife Martha, and spending time with his family. I congratulate Sgt. Willingham on his retirement and thank him for his service to America.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION
TO REFORM THE TREATMENT OF
ALASKA NATIVE CORPORATIONS
UNDER THE SBA'S 8(a) PROGRAM

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 9, 2011

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, today, I am introducing legislation to level the playing field in the Small Business Administration's, SBA, 8(a) small and disadvantaged business program by eliminating the preferences and special rules that exist for Alaska Native Corporations, ANCs.

The 8(a) program was established to improve participation rates for small, minority-owned and operated, economically and socially disadvantaged businesses in the Federal marketplace.

Under the program, eligible businesses receive training, technical assistance, and Federal contracting opportunities through set-asides and contract awards without competition.

In the current economic climate, 8(a) contracting opportunities can sometimes be the

difference between success and failure for small struggling businesses all across America.

Yet, all too often, small businesses are crowded out of the Federal marketplace by ANCs who, since 1986, have benefited from a carve-out which allows these firms to receive contracts under the 8(a) program with "special procurement advantages"—including the ability to win uncapped no-bid contracts. These benefits are not conferred to other 8(a) firms.

As a result, ANCs, who only make up about 2 percent of eligible firms under the 8(a) program, actually receive more than a fourth of 8(a) contracts.

Between FY2000 and FY2008, Federal contract dollars awarded to ANCs and their subsidiaries grew by 1,386 percent, and have more than tripled in recent years, from \$1.1 billion in FY 2004 to \$3.9 billion in FY 2008.

The Washington Post, and more recently Pro Publica, have published exposes that reveal the inequities of the ANC carve-out and how it has contributed to government waste.

My partner in the Senate in this effort is Senator CLAIRE MCCASKILL of Missouri has done extensive oversight of the ANC carve-out through her work on the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee Ad-hoc Subcommittee on Contracting Oversight.

I have been interested in the distorting effect of the ANC carve-out since 2005, when FEMA disproportionately awarded post-Katrina recovery contracts to ANC.

At my request, the Government Accountability Office studied the program and, in 2006, reported that the SBA's oversight of ANCs has "fallen short" and as a result there is "clearly the potential for unintended consequences or abuse." GAO further found that "sizable 8(a) revenues do not guarantee a higher level of shareholder benefits" to Alaska Natives.

The evidence for whether these revenues have benefited Native Alaskans is anecdotal at best but, interestingly, the poverty rate in Alaska has actually gone up since 1986, from 8.8 percent to 9.4 percent.

There are many glaring inconsistencies between the treatment of ANCs and all other 8(a) firms.

For example: while awards to regular 8(a) firms are capped at \$3.5 million for services contracts (or \$5.5 million for goods), they are uncapped for ANCs and are often awarded through sole-source, no-bid contracts; while regular 8(a) firms may not participate in the program for more than nine years, ANCs can remain in the program indefinitely as long as they keep creating new subsidiaries; while regular 8(a) firms have to prove every year that they are socially and economically disadvantaged, ANCs are presumed to be socially and economically disadvantaged; while regular 8(a) firms have to be run by an economically disadvantaged minority, ANCs do not have to be minority-owned and operated and are actually often run by wealthy non-Native managers.

My legislation will: (1) standardize the eligibility requirements for all 8(a) firms; (2) require ANCs to show that they are actually economically and socially disadvantaged, as is required by other 8(a) firms; (3) require all 8(a) firms, including ANCs, to show, on an annual basis, that they are owned and operated by social and economical disadvantaged persons;